

REMARKS

Claims 1-12 are pending in the present application.

The *provisional* obviousness-type double patenting rejections of: (a) Claims 1, 2, and 4 over Claims 1 and 4 of U.S. 10/296,217, and (b) Claims 1, 5, and 6 over Claims 1, 2, and 6 of U.S. 10/834,108, is obviated by cancellation of Claims 13-19.

Applicants remind the Examiner that MPEP §804 states:

If the "provisional" double patenting rejection in one application is the only rejection remaining in that application, the examiner should then withdraw that rejection and permit the application to issue as a patent, thereby converting the "provisional" double patenting rejection in the other application(s) into a double patenting rejection at the time the one application issues as a patent.

Accordingly, since the provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejection is the only remaining issue in the present application, Applicants submit that the provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejections over U.S. 10/296,217 and U.S. 10/834,108 should be withdrawn.

Acknowledgement to this effect is requested.

Applicants submit that the present application is in condition for allowance. Early notification to this effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Stephen G. Baxter
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 32,884

Customer Number

22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413-2220
(OSMMN 08/03)

Vincent K. Shier, Ph.D.
Registration No. 50,552